

Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

VOL. XX

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1910

Nos. 10, 11

Grace Reformed Church

East Washington St., between Barr and Lafayette

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Pastor

Residence, 320 E. Washington St.

SABBATH SERVICES

Sabbath School.....	9:30 A. M.
Church Services.....	10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.
Y. P. S. C. E.....	6:45 P. M.
Junior Y. P. S. C. E.	2:00 P. M.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday	7:30 P. M.

Program of Sacred Recital by Professor

Jesse K. Murdock, Sunday evening,

September 18, 1910.

Piano, Sonata Pathetique op 113
Beethoven.

Violin—Angels Serenade, Bragge.

Vocal—A Dream of Paradise, Gray.

Piano—Allegro from Fantasia Mila-
taire, Mr. Murdock's own composition

Vocal—The New Born King,

Edwards.

Violin—Lagro, Handle.

Piano—Hark, Hark the Lark, Shu-
bert, List.

Vocal—The Holy City, Adams.

Violin—Selecte Unaccompanied.

Vocal—Fear not ye O Israel, Buck.

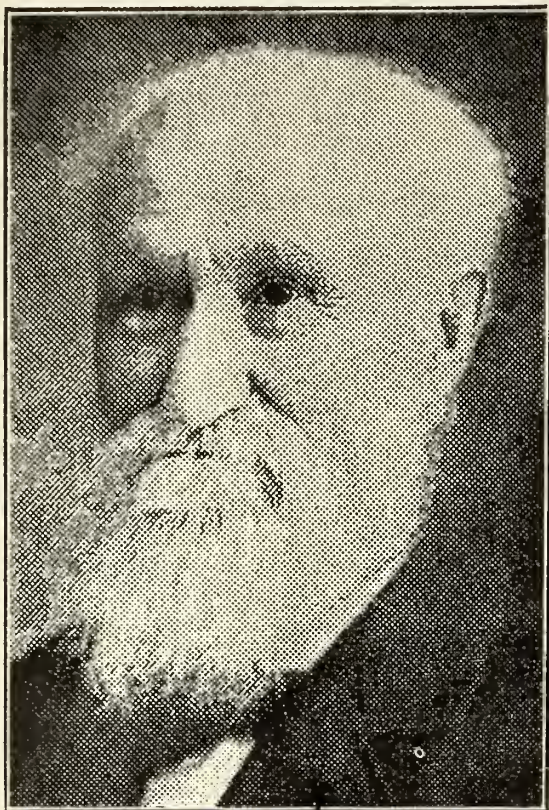
Piano—Recollections of Home, Mills.

Jesse Murdock, teacher voice, violin
and piano, 416 West Main street, Fort
Wayne, Home Phone, 2634.

Mr. Murdock will take a limited num-
ber of pupils as this will in a measure
occupy his time and render his stay in
Fort Wayne more pleasant.

Mr. Jesse Murdock, of Somerset, O.,
a cousin of the pastor, is in the city
taking treatment for his eyes. Though
having lost the sight of both eyes, he is
a musician of rare and extraordinary
talent, and attainment. He was with
us in our services on Sabbath, Sep. 11,
and rendered for us sweet and inspir-
ing selections both vocal and instrumen-
tal. He lost the sight of his left eye by
being accidentally struck with a snow
ball, when he was ten years of age. A
few years later the sight of his right
eye became impaired, resulting in total
blindness about nine years ago. He
has natural musical talent, and by close
and studious application, he has ac-
quired marvelous musical attainments.
He took a six years course in the state
asylum for the blind, at Columbus, O.,
and a special course of study at the
Oberlin conservatory of music. He is
master of almost all musical instru-
ments, an instructor in vocal and instru-
mental, and orchestra music. A young
man of fine social and literary attain-
ments, and best of all, of a noble chris-
tian character. He will be in the city
presumably for two months.

The ladies' section, No. 8, of which
Mrs. Bitner and Mrs. John Bottger
are managers, with the assistance of
the other ladies of the church will serve
dinner and supper on Saturday, Octo-
ber 22d, when the state convention of
the W. C. T. U. will be held in our
city.



BENJAMIN CONRAD

GONE TO REST.

Benjamin Conrad, father of Mrs. Allen K. Zartman, departed this life at two o'clock Sabbath morning, August 28th. He had accompanied the pastor's family to Rome City, where we were spending the month of August together pleasantly at the Dowel cottage on lake front. He was in his usual health and quite happy at the lake until within a few days of his death. He first began to feel indisposed on Thursday, complaining with some pain in his right shoulder. Nothing serious was apprehended inasmuch as he frequently had similar attacks during the past months. On Friday he developed some fever. In the evening his nephew, Dr. Shook, of Kendallville, was called to see him, the

Dr. tarried with us for several hours and grandpa was quite talkative and had a pleasant visit with his nephew. When the doctor left, he assured us that there were no serious symptoms in the case, and that in a day or so he would be all right again. On Saturday morning he felt some better and rested comfortably but felt weak, and still had some fever, and the pain had shifted from his right shoulder to the left side in the region of his heart. We were with him until nearly midnight Saturday evening, our bedrooms were adjoining, and we slept just a few feet apart, with only a curtain partly drawn between us. At a few minutes before two o'clock we awoke and at once went to his bed to see how he was resting, and whether there was anything we could do for him. We found him awake, when asked how he was feeling, he said he had no pain and was resting comfortably, his pulse was beating somewhat rapidly but full and regularly. He was perfectly conscious, and after talking with him for a little while, we returned to our room. It was only a few minutes later when we heard him struggling for his breath; we were at his bedside in an instant, and discovered at once that the end had come, and that he had already passed into unconsciousness. The other members of the family were hurriedly called, but the spirit had taken its flight; there were a few more exhalations and all was over. The spirit of the dear old father had gone to its eternal rest. It was to us a sad, and unexpected, but a most peaceful ending of a long and eventful life.

Mr. Conrad was the son of Jacob and Rebecca Fisher Conrad. He was born in Berks county, Long Swamp township, Pa., April 24, 1823. He was aged at his death 87 years 4 months and 4 days. In 1831 the family came to the west, and located in Jackson township, Stark county, O., ten miles northwest of Canton. In that community he grew up into manhood. When he was a young man he was apprenticed in the carpenter and cabinet trade. He was in his day, a very skilled mechanic. He was married to Mary A. Heldenbrand, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Heldenbrand, August 26, 1852. After his marriage he was for a number of years one of the enterprising and successful farmers of Stark county. Later he sold his farm and in 1875 moved to the city of Canton, when about a year later he and his brother David acquired the hotel property on North Market street, now known as the Hotel Conrad. For about ten years the two brothers were jointly proprietors of the hotel, since then the property has been leased to other parties. Mr. David Conrad died four years ago, in his will the deceased was named as administrator and trustee of his estate. During the past year he acquired his brother's interest in the hotel property. For the past twenty-eight years he spent much of his time with us in our home. While we were always happy and anxious to have him remain with us and thoroughly enjoyed his cheerful and happy companionship, we felt he should be at liberty to come and go as he wished. Canton was his old home, his old friends and acquaintances

were there, and very naturally he enjoyed spending much of his time in that city. Since the death of Mrs. Conrad, twelve years ago, he had his home at the hotel, where he had comfortable rooms and where he met many of his old friends every day.

Mr. Conrad was of Christian parentage. His ancestors were members of the Reformed church for generations past. He was baptized in infancy by Rev. Dr. Helfrick, one of the pioneer pastors of the Reformed church. When he attained the proper age he was confirmed by Rev. Dr. Peter Hermruck, and received into membership in what was then known as the Mudbrook Reformed church in Stark county, O. When the family removed to Canton they placed their membership in the Trinity Reformed church of which he was an elder for a number of years. About eight years ago his membership was transferred to the Grace Reformed church in this city, of which he was a member at the time of his death.

Mr. Conrad was a man of industrious and temperate habits. He has always been known among his friends and fellow-townsmen as a man of integrity and honor. He was a man of his word. His promises were sacred and binding. He was of a cheerful and happy disposition and his conversation often abounded with much of native wit. He loved his church, and was regular in his attendance upon divine service, even at his advanced age in life. On the last sabbath before going to the lake he was in the services and occupied a pew just in front of the pulpit. Until his sight

began to fail, he was a great reader. He kept himself well informed on all the general news. His Bible, hymnbook, and book of devotions, were his constant companions. On the morning when we were leaving for the lake he expressed the wish that his Bible and hymnbook might be placed in his suitcase. His wish was not forgotten. In his room at the cottage on a stand were his Bible and hymnbook, but we do not know that he read them, for his sight had failed so badly that when he attempted to read he had great difficulty to distinguish one line, or word, from another. Since his death we have learned from the oculist in the city, who fitted glasses for him just a few months ago, that in less than six months he would have been totally blind. It was a comfort to him to have his Bible with him whether he could read it or not.

In his father's family there were ten children, four brothers and five sisters. One brother, A. D. Conrad, of Eldon, Iowa, survives him. This brother is at present in poor health and was not able to be at the funeral service. In his own family there were three children two sons and one daughter. The two sons died in infancy, Mrs. Zartman is the only surviving member of the family, Mrs. Josephine Conrad Diefenbach, of Bluffton, Ind., is the only grandchild, and her little son, Allan, the only great grandchild. Besides the uncle at Eldon, Iowa, Mrs. Zartman has one other uncle living, an uncle on her mother's side, Mr. George Heldenbrand, of Canton, O., who has for many years past

been like a brother, to our departed father. These uncles have been a great comfort to us in our sorrow, and bereavement.

The remains were brought from Rome City on Monday evening, August 29, and placed in the parlor of the parish house. On the following morning at 9:30 a brief and simple service was conducted at our home to which the members of Grace church had been invited. At the request of Mrs. Zartman, this service was in charge of the pastor himself, who read the scripture lesson, Rev. 21st chapter, followed by prayer by our son-in-law Rev. H. B. Diefenbach, the obituary was read by the pastor, with a brief address. Rev. N. H. Bloom, of the city, spoke words of comfort to the family and friends. Rev. George Longaker, pastor of the Reformed church at Three Rivers was at the service and offered the closing prayer. Members of the church choir, Mrs. W. F. Close, Mrs. F. D. Knot, Miss Bertha Bitner, W. A. Hobson and A. Jones, furnished music for the service. At twelve o'clock, Tuesday, we left with the remains for Canton, O., when we arrived at Canton we found that full arrangements had been made for the care of the body and for the funeral service. The casket was taken at once to the parlors of the Hotel, where the final service was held on Wednesday afternoon. Dr. Herbruck pastor of the Trinity Reformed church of Canton, son of the sainted Dr. Peter Herbruck, had charge of the service. His brief address was an eloquent and beautiful eulogy upon the life and character of the departed. Dr. Her-

bruck had a personal and intimate acquaintance with Mr. Conrad for more than a third of a century. A ladies' quartet of the Trinity church furnished music for the service at Canton. At the close of the service the remains were taken to the beautiful West Lawn cemetery, where they were laid away to rest in the family lot by the side of his companion, who had preceded him to the eternal home.

We desire to express again our appreciation of the kindness extended to us in ^{our} sorrow by the members of Grace church the friends at Rome City, and our friends at Canton, O. It was a source of great comfort to us to have two of the elders of Grace church with us at Rome City on Monday when the remains were brought to the city. We are thankful for the kind services of the pastors, singers and pallbearers, here and Canton, for the beautiful floral offerings by the members of Grace church, and the Woman's Aid society, for the words of comfort and sympathy spoken to us and sent to us by messages from far, and near.

Dr. Herbruck has kindly furnished us with a brief of his address at the service at Canton, which we know our friends will be glad to read.

FUNERAL ADDRESS.

by Dr. Herbruck.

On Sunday morning, August 28th, the light of a long and useful life went out, for then the spirit of Benjamin Conrad took its upward flight. By his departure a home was saddened and a family circle converted into a circle of mourners. And we are here now to

manifest our respect for the dear old man and say a few words in honor of his memory.

A funeral is always sad, yet there are different degrees of sadness produced by the deaths of different persons. It has seemed to me that the saddest funeral of all is that of a young man, the saddest because there is so much apparent waste of power, so much work left undone, so many plans unfinished and so many fond hopes dashed down by the bony fingers of death. In the case of a little child this is not so, neither is it so in the case of an old man. When an old man dies his death is looked upon as inevitable. He has run his course, he had rounded out his career and there is nothing left for him but to be gathered unto his fathers. The friends of his youth are all gone and a feeling of loneliness has laid hold of him.

The mossy marbles rest
On the life that he has passed
In their bloom;
And the names he loved to hear
Have been carved for many a year
On the tomb."

He recognizes death as just before him and his friends also are prepared for the inevitable. We would be greatly surprised if the sun were to set in the morning and the leaves fall in the spring time but we are not surprised when the sun sets in the evening and the leaves fall in the autumn. And so we are not surprised when an aged pilgrim after years of trudging over life's pathway reaches the further bound and lays his burden down.

Eighty-seven years is a long stretch
(Continued on page 7)

Grace Church Visitor

REV. A. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher

Subscription Price, 25 cents per year

Mrs. F. D. Paulus and Mrs. Clark Bolander from Akron, O., attended the funeral of Mr. Conrad at Canton. As upon many former occasions so at this time it was a real comfort to see these dear friends.

Miss Ethel Conrad, of Eldon, Iowa, was permitted to be at the services of our dear departed father at the parsonage, on Tuesday. On account of the illness of her father she left on Wednesday for her home in Iowa.

By a beautiful card from Williamsport, Pa., we were apprised of the fact that Mr. Geo. Shiffer was visiting there.

Miss Bertha Bitner has again resumed her studies upon the piano and pipe organ at Heidelberg. She left on Tuesday, September 13, for Tiffin. Speaking of Heidelberg brings back many tender and fond recollections of days gone by, to the pastor and Mrs. Zartman,—we wish there might be many others of the young people of Grace church enter Heidelberg for a higher education.

The following announcement reached the pastor at Rome City the latter part of August:

Minster, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Dr. C. L. Dine announce the marriage of their daughter Portia Alice to William Arthur Hobson, Windsor, Ont. At home after Oct. 5th, 1530 Crescent Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind.

We extend congratulations and best wishes. Mr. Hobson is well known to the membership of Grace church, and highly esteemed by all. He has rendered efficient services in the church for many years. He is a member of the

choir, financial secretary of the church, and has served in the consistory for a number of terms. Mrs. Hobson has been in the city for some time and has made many friends in Grace Church. She is an aimable and charming young lady.

The announcement of our Rally day will be made in a later issue of the Visitor.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Gumper and family have returned from their long outing at Lake Wawasee. They are all enjoying the best of health and report a delightful summer.

At a called meeting of the Missionary society on Thursday evening Mrs. Zartman and Mrs. Leikauf were elected delegates to the Missionary society of the Ohio Synod at Thornville, Ohio. This being in the vicinity of the pastor's childhood home he will accompany Mrs. Zartman and pay a short visit to his four sisters who reside there.

It is the earnest wish of the teacher in the primary department of the Sunday school that parents bring or send their children to the Sunday school. Many of the children have been away during the summer months. When returning it seems a difficult matter to get them back into their places. This should not be so. It is of the utmost importance that children are taught to be regular church attendants and there is no better time to begin the training of a child than in infancy. If we expect our children to develop into active faithful christians we must start them right and keep them in the right way. The Bible says "Bring up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart therefrom." Do not be surprised if in after years your children become non-church attendants, if by your indulgence and neglect you help them to make frivolous excuses for remaining away from church.

FUNERAL ADDRESS

(Ctntinued from page 5)

of time as we men speak—not long in the sight of God, for with him “a thousand years are as a day and a day as a thousand years.” But with us this is a long span of time, probably longer than any here today will ever pass over, for it is estimated that probably not more than one in five thousand ever gets to be four-score and five. Eighty seven years—at least three generations of men have come and gone during that time. And what events have taken place in the history of the world, the history of the country and the history of the community. Those eighty-seven years very near cover the entire history of this city.

Eighty-seven years is a long period of time relatively speaking, but only relatively. Absolutely it is short, for time passes quickly away. Even the life of the oldest man on earth is soon over. I remember of having once asked my father, who also lived to a ripe old age, whether his life seemed long or short to him. I shall never forget his answer and the quaver of his voice as he spoke it: “As I looked forward into my life it seemed long, but now, as I look back over it, it seems only as a dream.” You will remember Jacob’s remark to King Pharaoh, as he was introduced to the great monarch down in Egypt. Jacob was then a very old man tottering on his staff and the king asked him the very natural question, “How old art thou?” Jacob answered, “The days of my years are a hundred and twenty. Few and evil have the days of my life

been. Though far beyond the century mark it seemed as though his days were few and his life short. I am sure that this was true also of this departed father. His eighty-seven years must have seemed short to him. He could have said with the old patriarch, “my days are swifter than a post. They are passed away as the swift ships, as the eagle that hasteth to the prey.”

I had the greatest respect for this brother, as I always have for any one who has reached old age. Our natural instinct is to reverence the aged and to uncover before them. I honored Mr. Conrad because he was an old man. I honored him for his personal dignity, his venerable mien, and his long residence here. And these mean more than appears on the surface. They are the interpretation of a temperate life and clean habits. Longevity is the outward expression of sobriety, moderation and self-control. It implies mastery of mind and body. Extreme old age can only come where there has been proper regard for the laws of health which are also the laws of God. “A hoary head is a crown of beauty, because it is found in the way of righteousness.”

I admired this brother because of his integrity, for he was a rigidly honest man. He knew the difference between mine and thine. He wanted what was his own and nothing more. In the handsome competency which he succeeded in accumulating there was not one penny of “tainted” money. He never took advantage of nor wilfully wronged any one. He could look every man in the face and stood four-square to all the winds that blew. He had the

friendship of his own conscience, the respect of his fellowmen and the approval of his God.

He had reached the years "when the grasshopper becomes a burden and desire shall fail, when they that look out of the windows shall be darkened and the doors be shut on the streets." There were symptoms of approaching blindness and the coming of other infirmities. It was a time of isolation, retrospection and sorrow. Life had lost most of its sweetness and there was nothing left but translation to that other world "where their youth is renewed like the eagle's" and the limitations of earth are unknown.

I think of a poem which should form a fitting conclusion for these remarks. It is entitled "The Old Man," and is from the pen of Ralph Hoyt. It is not for the sake of its beauty so much as its pathos that I quote these selected verses:

"By the way side on a mossy stone
Sat a hoary pilgrim sadly musing,
Oft I watched him sitting there alone
All the landscape like a page perusing.

Poor, unknown

By the Wayside on a mossy stone,"

(A little girl passing by asked why he was there and what he was doing.)

"Angel, said he sadly, I am old,
Earthly hope no longer hath a morrow;
Yet why I am here thou shalt be told,
In his eye a pearl of sorrow—

Down it rolled—

Angel, said he sadly, I am old."

I have tottered here to look once more
On the pleasant scenes where I delighted
In the careless happy days of yore
Ere the garden of my heart was blighted
To the core—

I have tottered here to look once more."

"In the cottage yonder I was born;
Long my happy home that humble
dwelling,

There the fields of clover, wheat and
corn;

There the spring, with limpid nectar
swelling

Ah, forlorn!

In the cottage yonder I was born."

"I am fleeing, all I loved are fled,
Yon green meadow was our place for
playing;

That old tree can tell of sweet things
said

When around it Jane and I were stray-
ing,

She is dead—

I am fleeing, all I loved are fled."

"Oft the aisle of that old church we
trod,

Guided thither by an angel mother;
Now she sleeps beneath its sacred sod,
Sire and sister and my little brother,
Gone to God.

Oft the aisle of that old church we
trod."

"Angel, said he sadly, I am old,
Earthly hope no longer hath a morrow,
Now why I am here thou hast been told
In his eye another pearl of sorrow,

Down it rolled.

Angel, said he sadly, I am old."

Samuel Dukeman departed this life Tuesday morning, August 9th. He was born June 31st, 1852. He was aged 62 years 5 months and 8 days. Mr. Dukeman had been in failing health for the past three or four years, and much of the time was in much distress and suffering. He had been a resident of Fort Wayne for many years and was universally respected. He was of a quiet and unassuming disposition, and of a kind heart. He passed through

many sorrows and bereavements during his life. He many times felt that his sorrows were more than he could bear, but the Lord sustained him in all his afflictions and trials. He was for many years a member of Grace church and until his declining health was always a regular attendant upon the public services. He leaves to mourn his death, his companion, two brothers and four sisters. The funeral services were held Thursday afternoon, August 11, and were conducted by the pastor. May the Lord sustain and comfort the sorrowing wife and friends.

Mr. Frank Thomson and Miss Carrie Cour were married at the home of the bride on Thursday evening, September 1st. Both are members of Grace church and have for a number of years rendered valuable services in our church choir. The pastor was exceedingly sorry that he could not be present to officiate at the marriage of these young people in compliance with their wish. The death of Mrs. Zartman's father made it impossible for us to be in the city for the occasion. We extend hearty congratulations and wish for them a long and happy married life.

The month of October is approaching rapidly, when the second instalment on the pledges given for the church debt and organ fund will be due. In compliance with an action of the consistory, statements will be sent to the members of the amounts due upon their pledges by the first of the month. A number of the members have not yet given their subscriptions for this fund. They have of their own accord assured us that

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they would do their part and we are confident that they will help us in this final round up all they can. We have just recently received some very liberal contributions to this fund. Some have paid very liberally who had no pledges. We shall be glad for any and all the help we may receive, we are anxious to liquidate the indebtedness upon the church and as early as possible secure our organ toward which Mr. Carnegie has consented to pay \$1,000.

Mr. and Mrs. David Wilbert have returned from their sad mission of attending the funeral of Mr. Wilbert's aged mother. She had been in declining health for a number of years, but the end came suddenly after all. She was seated in her arm chair and the family thought she was sleeping, when they went to awaken her she had indeed entered into that eternal sleep from which there is no waking. Mr. Wilbert's father has visited in Fort Wayne a number of times and all who were permitted to meet him would say that to know him was to love him. It does not take long to recognize the characteristics of a christian life. So father Wilbert's face beams with a joy that is deeper than any joy this world can give. It is the actual realization of these beautiful words, "my peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth." To the aged father, to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert and to the entire family we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Bottger have returned from a sojourn in Kalamazoo, Mich. Miss Estella Bottger spent a delightful summer with friends in Tyrone, Pa.

Mrs. Shadle, mother of Mrs. J. H. Straub, attended the social at Grace church on Thursday evening, Sept. 8.

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